

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0280
Date: 21 February 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

How many women per year have died from falling from a height between 01-01-2016 and 28-01-2022?

In response to this question, it is necessary to answer in two parts.

In relation to deaths generally, and the information held by Police Scotland (which would be sudden death reports to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service), I regret to advise you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to search these reports based on the alleged cause of death.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

You may wish to consult the relevant National Records of Scotland publications:

www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths

Notwithstanding the above, I can advise you that there were 2 homicides which meet the terms of your request. Information regarding homicides is stored in a different system with different search capabilities.

How many people were charged in relation to the deaths? How many of those people were men?

From the 2 homicides mentioned, 2 persons were charged with both subjects being male.

How many people were convicted in relation to the deaths?

Both cases are still progressing through the Criminal Justice System and have yet to be brought to a conclusion.

How many victims had domestic abuse markers against their names, in relation to the deaths?

1 of the homicides documented previous domestic abuse.

What locations did the women fall from e.g. did they fall from a tower block, a bridge, a carpark, a cliff?

In one homicide the location was listed as a pier (above water and rocks) and the other homicide location was listed as a hillside/cliff (at a tourist location).

How many women per year have been seriously injured from falling from a height between 01-01-2016 and 28-01-2022?

How many people were charged in relation to the serious injuries? How many of those people were men?

How many people were convicted in relation to the serious injuries?

How many victims had domestic abuse markers against their names? In relation to the serious injuries.

What locations did the women fall from e.g. did they fall from a tower block, a bridge, a carpark, a cliff?

Having considered these questions in terms of the Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, the only way to provide you with this information in an accurate and consistent manner would be to individually examine each and every crime (etc) report for the years requested to establish if it met the specific criteria outlined in your request. There are no relevant markers which allow the automatic retrieval of this level of information.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee quoting the reference number given.

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If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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